Department of State **TELEGI**

(402)

CONFIDENTIAL

AN: D760382-0352

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 235249

12
ORIGIN IO-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /004 R

66011
DRAFTED BY:IO/SCT:LNCAVANAUGH:GB
APPROVED BY:IO/SCT:JPTREVITHICK
---------- 008939
R 090233Z OCT 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
INFO USMISSION IAEA VIENNA 6745

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY HSD DATE 5/21/82
RDS☐or XDS☐EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED☑ RELEASABLE☑
RELEASE DENIED☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 235249

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 235249. ACTION TAIPEI INFO PEKING HONG KONG 22 SEP.

QUOTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 235249

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, PFOR, TW, US

SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL HEARING ON ROC NUCLEAR ACTIVITIES

1. ASSISTANT SECRETARY HUMMEL AND ACDA DIRECTOR IKLE TESTIFIED SEPTEMBER 22 IN OPEN SESSION ON THE ROC'S NUCLEAR ACTIVITIES BEFORE SENATOR SYMINGTON'S SUBCOMMITTEE ON ARMS CONTROL. CIA DIRECTOR BUSH PRECEDED THEM IN EXECUTIVE SESSION. BOTHIKLE AND HUMMEL EMPHASIZED THE US COMMITMENT TO NON-PROLIFERATION, THE STEPS WE HAD TAKEN TO PREVENT TAIWAN FROM ACQUIRING A REPROCESSING FACILITY AND THE FORTHCOMING WRITTEN RESPONSE WE RECEIVED FROM THE ROC THAT IT WOULD NEITHER MANUFACTURE NUCLEAR WEAPONS NOR ENGAGE IN ACTIVITIES RELATED TO REPROCESSING. (HUMMEL'S STATEMENT FOLLOWS SEPTEL.)

2. THE QUESTIONING BY SENATORS SYMINGTON AND CASE WAS PROBING THOUGH GENERALLY NONANTAGONISTIC. IT FOCUSED ON THE VALIDITY OF RECENT PRESS STORIES ABOUT TAIWAN'S

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

EFFORTS TO DEVELOP A NUCLEAR WEAPONS CAPABILITY AND THE NATURE OF OUR NUCLEAR COOPERATION WITH TAIWAN. BOTH WITNESSES STRESSED THAT THERE WAS NO ECONOMIC JUSTIFICATION FOR THE ROC ACQUIRING A REPROCESSING FACILITY, THAT ROC ACQUISITION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS CAPABILITY WOULD BE CONTRARY TO OUR NON-PROLIFERATION AND REGIONAL INTERESTS AND THAT THE US HAD CLEARLY WARNED THE ROC THAT SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES WOULD RESULT FROM VIOLATIONS OF ITS NON-PROLIFERATION ASSURANCES.

3. THE SENATORS SEEMED GENERALLY SATISFIED WITH OUR HANDLING OF THE ROC PROBLEM, THOUGH THEY EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT THE GENERAL ISSUES OF NON-PROLIFERATION. AS AN EXAMPLE OF THEIR ATTITUDE, SENATOR CASE AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE HEARING COMMENTED THAT "WE'VE RIDDEN THE ROC QUITE HARD ON THIS ONE."

4. THE ROC'S SEPTEMBER 17 WRITTEN ASSURANCES PROBABLY HAD AN IMPORTANT IMPACT IN DEFUSING THE ISSUE AT THE HEARINGS. WE DID NOT PROVIDE TEXT OF ROC NOTE, ALTHOUGH HUMMEL QUOTED OPERATIVE SECTION IN HIS OPENING STATEMENT. HOWEVER, WE UNDERSTAND THAT AMBASSADOR SHEN FORWARDED TEXT TO SYMINGTON IN LETTER ON EVE OF HEARING. HABIB UNQUOTE ROBINSON

CONFIDENTIAL